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THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN  
THE EVANGELIST  
Philadelphia  
Pennsylvania

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THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

At the time of the Survey there had just been a change of ordained leadership, and the new rector had not really had an opportunity to become acquainted with the parish, having assumed his position following upon the lengthy tenure of his predecessor. The data submitted for the census are far less adequate than could be desired, and the General Division of Research and Field Study is reluctant to place much dependence upon them as representing the present life of the congregation or its potential for ministry. The following brief report is based primarily upon data available from the Diocesan Journals and from the United States Census Bureau publications. It is strongly urged that the congregation undertake a complete self-examination, possibly along the lines suggested by the Diocesan Survey, in order that long-range plans for the future of the parish may be established. The area around St. John's is one in which the Church has a strong potential as well as an enormous challenge. It is hoped that the congregation will be in a position to work closely with the diocese as that ministry is developed.

The property of the congregation of St. John the Evangelist is at the corner of Third and Reid Streets and consists of a large nave, with a seating capacity of 400 persons on the second floor of a building which contains parish hall facilities on the ground floor as well as in the rear of the building. The structure is reported to be in fair condition, but it needs extensive refurbishing in order to make it attractive and fully useable. A question is raised as to the soundness of the balcony. The rectory is also reported to be in good condition.

THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

St. John the Evangelist serves, primarily, an area of industry and residence of people working in that industry. Row

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houses predominate, most being occupied by single-families, although some sub-division has taken place during recent years. The neighborhood is a fairly stable one in many respects.

Philadelphia has been divided into numerous tracts by the United States Census Bureau and for the purposes of this Survey, the tract in which the church buildings are located, 1-B, and the seven adjacent census tracts have been designated as the parish area. Information concerning population changes and characteristics of those eight tracts may be found in the following tables. It should be realized that the data are drawn from the 1960 census, and may be somewhat out of date. The first table shows a considerable loss of population in the area between 1950 and 1960 and also shows the generally older population, in terms of having a sizeable proportion of adults between the ages of 20 and 65, with relatively few youngsters, except in Census Tract 1-A, which has a small population, and in Census Tract 39-A which has an even smaller population.

Census Tract	Population		% Change	%	%
	1950	1960		14 & Under	65 & Over
1-A	589	397	-32.5	31.5	8.3
1-B	15,014	12,102	-19.4	26.2	10.1
1-C	16,890	13,613	-19.5	22.8	12.1
2-A	9,323	4,780	-48.7	27.6	9.9
2-B	11,029	8,025	-27.2	26.6	10.6
39-A	107	14	-664.3	21.4	0.6
39-B	17,703	15,081	-14.9	27.1	9.7
39-C	21,386	18,671	-12.7	26.8	9.8
 Total	 92,042	 72,683	 -21.0		

The next tract gives information on the education of adults who were aged 25 or more as of 1960. The median education refers to the number of years of formal school completed by those adults.

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Census Tract	Ed. of Adults 25 Yrs. of Age & Over			Median Ed.
	% H.S.Grad.	% Coll.	% 1-3 Yrs.	
1-A	16.4	0	0	8.8
1-B	11.7	2.2	2.0	8.6
1-C	11.4	1.7	2.1	8.3
2-A	10.5	1.2	0.1	8.2
2-B	12.4	0.3	0.9	8.3
39-A	NA	NA	NA	NA
39-B	12.5	1.3	1.1	8.6
39-C	15.0	1.6	1.4	8.7

The following table gives information on the very unequal distribution of the non-white population. It also gives information as to the proportion of the 1960 population which was living in the same house in 1960 as in 1955. That proportion is remarkably high for most tracts.

Census Tract	Non-White Population 1950	1960	Residence 1960	
			% Non-White	Same as 1955 %
1-A	4	7	1.8	82.0
1-B	191	431	3.6	61.7
1-C	187	148	1.1	70.8
2-A	2,977	1,342	28.1	73.1
2-B	799	1,671	20.8	67.6
39-A	4	0	0	83.3
39-B	410	218	1.4	71.1
39-C	1,461	2,178	11.7	67.1
Total		6,033	5,995	8.2

The next table gives information on the relative strength of the Episcopal Church and of the Church of St. John the Evangelist. The table is a result of compilation of the membership maps submitted by churches throughout the diocese. As the table is studied a question should be raised as to the accuracy of the St. John's figures, reporting as they do an even 200 persons in Census Tract 1-B, an even 300 in Census Tract 39-B, with very few people reported in surrounding census tracts. Such a distribution of members is unusual, though certainly not impossible. It also should be borne in mind that the Episcopal Church throughout Philadelphia reaches people equal in number to 2.0% of the 1960 population.

Census Tract	Total Pop.	Total Epis.	% Of Pop. Epis.	Total Parish Memb.	% Epis. Memb.	% Parish Memb.
1-A	397	4	1.0	0	0	0
1-B	12,102	329	2.7	200	60.8	38.6
1-C	13,613	49	0.4	3	6.1	0.6
2-A	4,780	56	1.2	10	17.9	1.9
2-B	8,025	43	0.5	0	0	0
39-A	14	8	57.1	0	0	0
39-B	15,081	460	3.1	300	65.2	57.9
39-C	18,671	48	0.3	0	0	0
 Total	 72,683	 997	 1.4	 513	 51.5	 99.0

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### THE CHURCH PROGRAM

The Church Self-Study Form which was submitted for the Church of St. John the Evangelist was incompletely filled out, to the extent that very few observations based upon the data contained in it can be made. The congregation is strongly urged to fill out a similar report for its own benefit, raising questions as to the whys and wherefores for every question and the answers to them. If the congregation wishes to submit a completed questionnaire, the General Division of Research and Field Study will analyze it as time is available.

GENERAL DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND FIELD STUDY  
Episcopal Church Center  
815 Second Avenue  
New York, N. Y. 10017

Date 12-19-64

CHURCH SELF-STUDY FORM

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I. IDENTIFICATION

Church St. John the Evangelist  
Street Mayavineen Ave & 7th St City Springfield  
County Franklin Diocese Pennsylvania  
Parish or Mission St. John the Evangelist State Pa.

What geographic area does this church serve? Southwest  
Springfield  
Franklin

II. THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

A. The church is located in a section of the city which is occupied by:

Downtown commercial uses   Industrial uses   Apartment dwellings     
Rooming houses   Single-home dwellings   A college   Military  
uses   Other institutions  

B. If more than one type is checked above, please clarify:

Row Houses

C. Is the church neighborhood changing in any way? Describe:

No

D. The following schools are located within the church neighborhood:

PUBLIC GRADESCHOOLS

ADDRESS

Van Elementary  
Shawwood  
Laurel

Mayavineen Ave & 7th St  
Shawwood  
Laurel

PUBLIC JUNIOR AND SENIOR  
HIGH SCHOOLS

Linwood

ADDRESS

1397-916th

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL NURSERY SCHOOLS

St. Peter's Heart

St. Peter's W. Paul

St. Peter's Day School

ADDRESS

3rd & 1st

3rd & 9th

4th & 5th

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL GRADE SCHOOLS

St. Peter's

ADDRESS

 

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL JUNIOR AND SENIOR  
HIGH SCHOOLS

 

ADDRESS

 

JUNIOR COLLEGES AND COLLEGES

 

ADDRESS

E. The following churches are located within the church neighborhood:

### III. HISTORY OF THE CONGREGATION

Please write out a short history of this congregation. How was the work started? Give the important dates and events.

The above began about 100 years ago in 1913 when Rev. H. C. and Mc Henry, then superintendent of P. E. City Mission, voluntarily and without remuneration came down as Missionary-in-charge. Through his efforts the congregation grew from 7 communicants to the working group we now have today. The congregation consists mainly of non-professional salaried workers. The congregation celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building of St. John's in 1954

IV. THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

A. Church properties:

1. Describe and give location of all land owned by the congregation, reporting the use of each parcel.

Church - 3rd & Reed Sts  
Parish House 3rd & Reed Sts

2. Type of church building: Frame  Brick  Stone  Other  (type)

Describe the church building, giving number of sittings; condition of building; and improvements needed, with estimated cost:

Seating capacity 400  
Fair - Painting of interior needed

Replacement Value \$ 250,000 Amount of insurance carried \$ 183,000

3. Type of parish hall or house: Attached  Separated ;

In basement of the church ; Frame  Brick

Stone  Other  (type)

Describe, giving the number of rooms, the condition of the building, and improvements needed, with the estimated cost.

5 rooms  
Fair - Painting needed

Replacement value \$  Amount of insurance carried \$

4. Type of rectory or clergy house: Attached \_\_\_\_\_ Separated ;  
Frame \_\_\_\_\_ Brick  Stone \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(type)

Describe, giving the number of rooms, the condition of this building, and improvements needed, with estimated cost.

5 rooms

Good

Is it used as a clergy residence?  If not, what use is made of the building?

Replacement value: \$ 10,000 Insurance carried: \$ 10,000

5. Describe all other buildings owned or used by the congregation, giving  
(a) type of construction; (b) number of rooms; (c) condition;  
(d) improvements needed and estimated cost; (e) replacement value;  
(f) amount of insurance carried; and (g) present use.

B. Membership (secure from parish records):

1. Number of church families: Total number 235

Number of individuals not in families 35

2. Baptized membership | Communicants Church School

<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>Now</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>Now</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>Now</u>
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—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
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3. Number of baptized members who were removed from the parish list

5 yrs. ago	4 yrs. ago	3 yrs. ago	2 yrs. ago	Last year
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Number of baptized members who were added to the parish list	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—

4. Communicants added:

By confirmation from Episcopal families

—	—	—	—	—
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By confirmation from other Churches

—	—	—	—	—
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By reception from other Churches

—	—	—	—	—
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By baptism and confirmation from no church

—	—	—	—	—
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Total

—	—	—	—	—
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5. Attendance:

Number of communicants who attended regularly last year

75

Number of communicants who attended occasionally

150

Number who did not attend last year, but lived in the community

350

Number of communicants who did not live in the community, but were on the parish records, not transferred

25

6. How many persons attended the last annual business meeting?

65

V. WORSHIP

A. List schedule of regular Sunday services, including church school:

TYPE OF SERVICE	HOUR	ATTENDANCE (Adults & Children)*		
		LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
Communion	8 A.M.	12	25	45
Morning Prayer	10 A.M.	65	100	128
Sunday School	11 A.M.	41	70	100

\*Use figures from Church Service Register

B. Weekday services:

TYPE OF SERVICE	DAY AND HOUR	ATTENDANCE*		
		LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
Saint's Days	10:00	1	3	10
Communion Service every Tues.	10:00	1	3	10

\*Use figures from the Church Service Register

C. Special services or missions held during the average year (including Lent):

Lenten Services every Thurs.

Good Friday

Thanksgiving

Christmas

D. Number and nature of services in which this congregation participates with other Episcopal congregations. State average attendance from this congregation:

St. Andrews Brotherhood

Convocation Service once a yr.

E. What experiments or adjustments have been made in changing the hours or the format of services? Comment on results:

Started mid-week communion

F. Additional information about Sunday services:

1. Are birthdays, anniversaries, and the departed regularly remembered? Yes
2. Is there a coffee or hospitality hour after any service? No
3. Is baby care provided during any service? No

## VI. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

#### A. Church School

## 1. Registration and attendance

a. Teachers and staff 16

b. Students 70

Total 86

c. Lowest total classroom attendance during the past year 41

d. Highest total classroom attendance during the past year (except for Christmas and Easter) 100

e. Are absentee cards used? Yes

f. How many months of the year is the church school in operation? 9 mo.

g. If teachers call on students in case of absence, or for other reasons, please give details. On occasion teachers visit all

## 2. Worship schedule

### 3. Instruction schedule

4. List the teaching aids used, including audio-visual material.

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5. Describe the program for pre-school children.

Have a beginner's class

6. Data on the teaching staff

a. How are teachers recruited? Voluntary basis

b. Describe the way in which teachers are trained, giving the number of sessions, the leaders, etc.

Teachers' meetings under the direction of rector

c. How are teachers assisted in the performance of their duties?

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d. Summary of teachers' backgrounds

<u>AGE</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>EDUCATION</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>YEARS TEACHING</u>	<u>Number</u>
19 years or less	<u>3</u>	Grade school	—	one	—
20 to 29	<u>5</u>	Junior high	—	two	<u>3</u>
30 to 39	<u>2</u>	Senior high 1 to 3 years	<u>15</u>	three	—
40 to 49	<u>1</u>	College	—	four	—
50 years or more	<u>5</u>	College grad.	<u>1</u>	five	—
		Graduate study	—	6 to 10	<u>9</u>
Male	<u>1</u>			11 to 20	—
Female	<u>15</u>	K-12		20 and over	<u>4</u>

7. What problems does the church school have? \_\_\_\_\_

Trained teachers  
Disinterested parents

B. Vacation Church School

1. When is it held? \_\_\_\_\_
2. For how long each day? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What type of courses are taught? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many children attend, usually? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many of these children are regular pupils of this congregation's church school? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How many teachers are there? \_\_\_\_\_

C. Released Time Program

1. When are classes held? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What type of courses are taught? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many of this congregation's children attend? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the relationship of the teachers to this congregation? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the relationship of the Released Time classes to the Christian education program of this congregation? \_\_\_\_\_

D. Day School: If the congregation has a day school, please fill out the Parochial School Report Form and submit it with this report.

#### E. Confirmation Instruction

## 1. Children

a. What is the usual age of confirmation? 10 b. How many instruction sessions are held? 52 c. How long is each session? 1 hr d. Who is the instructor? Rector Teacher e. What material is used?

f. What is the relationship of the confirmation class material to the regular church school curriculum?

## 2. Adults

a. How many sessions are held? \_\_\_\_\_ b. How long is each session?  
\_\_\_\_\_ c. Who is the instructor? \_\_\_\_\_ d. What  
material is used?

#### F. Adult Education

1. List the general adult education program in the congregation, including Bible classes, parents' classes, discussion groups, etc.

2. What Retreats, missions, Quiet Days, etc., have the members participated in during the last two years? Estimate the total number of participants.

One quiet day 2 members

3. What leader- and participant-training programs have been held in the last two years, such as the Indiana Plan, Parish Life Conferences, Missions, and Institutes? Estimate the total number of participants.

G. How can the Christian education program of this congregation be strengthened?

VII. SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATIONS - Include, where applicable, vestry or bishop's committee, parish council, choirs, guilds, circles, ushers, acolytes (for men as well as boys), college work, etc.

A. For Women

1. Give the total number of adult women in the congregation. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Give the number of organizations for adult women. 2
3. Give the total active membership of all these organizations. 30

B. For Men

1. Give the total number of adult men in the congregation. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Give the number of organizations for adult men. 1
3. Give the total membership of all these organizations. 15

C. For Men and Women

1. Give the number of organizations for men and women. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Give the total active membership of all these organizations. \_\_\_\_\_

D. For Girls in:

	<u>grade school</u>	<u>junior high</u>	<u>high school</u>
1. Total number of girls	____	____	____
2. Number of organizations	____	____	____
3. Total active membership	____	____	____

E. For Boys in:

	<u>grade school</u>	<u>junior high</u>	<u>high school</u>
1. Total number of boys	____	____	____
2. Number of organizations	____	____	____
3. Total active membership	____	____	____

F. For Youth in:

	<u>grade school</u>	<u>junior high</u>	<u>high school</u>
1. Number of organizations	____	____	____
2. Total active membership	____	____	____

N.B. Please make a separate report for each individual organization, using the format on the following pages.

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Episcopal Churchwomen  
Total active members 30 Average attendance at meetings 30  
Number of meetings each month 1 Day and time of meetings Mon. Eve.

B. Why does this organization exist?

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C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

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D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

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E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

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F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

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G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

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Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Altar Guild  
Total active members \_\_\_\_\_ Average attendance at meetings \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of meetings each month \_\_\_\_\_ Day and time of meetings \_\_\_\_\_

B. Why does this organization exist?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Men's Club

Total active members \_\_\_\_\_ Average attendance at meetings \_\_\_\_\_

Number of meetings each month \_\_\_\_\_ Day and time of meetings \_\_\_\_\_

B. Why does this organization exist?

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C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn? \_\_\_\_\_

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D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

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E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

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F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

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G. What can be done for greater effectiveness? \_\_\_\_\_

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Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total active members \_\_\_\_\_ Average attendance at meetings \_\_\_\_\_

Number of meetings each month \_\_\_\_\_ Day and time of meetings \_\_\_\_\_

B. Why does this organization exist?

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C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn? \_\_\_\_\_

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D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

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E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

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F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

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G. What can be done for greater effectiveness? \_\_\_\_\_

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Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total active members \_\_\_\_\_ Average attendance at meetings \_\_\_\_\_

Number of meetings each month \_\_\_\_\_ Day and time of meetings \_\_\_\_\_

B. Why does this organization exist?

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C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn? \_\_\_\_\_

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D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

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E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

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F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

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G. What can be done for greater effectiveness? \_\_\_\_\_

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Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

IX. CLERGY OR LAY READERS IN CHARGE SINCE 1930

NAME	APPROX. AGE AT START OF MINISTRY HERE	PERIOD OF TENURE	MOVED TO:
<u>John Peale</u>			
<u>Jeremiah Rutter</u>			
<u>H. Cresson M. Henry</u>			
<u>Vernon Matthews</u>	40		
<u>Allen Kremer</u>	35		
<u>Norman Tarnof</u>	35		
<u>Charles Urban</u>	61		
<u>Henry E. Wright</u>	54		
<u>James Beegelhoffer</u>			

A. Does the present minister live in the neighborhood? Yes

Does he give full time to this church? Yes If not, what other church(es) does he serve, or what other work does he do?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

B. How many people from this parish have gone into full time work for the church within the past ten years, or are now studying for such work? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please give details.

None  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

C. How many licensed lay readers serve the congregation now? 2

Do any lay readers from this congregation serve other congregations? No

If so, which congregations? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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REPORTED MEMBERSHIP FROM MAPS

The membership map submitted by the congregation of the Church of St. John the Evangelist shows the places of residence of 518 persons. As has been noted earlier, 200 members are reported as living in Census Tract 1-B, in which the church buildings are located, while 300 persons are reported as living in Census Tract 39-B, the tract just to the south of 1-B. The remaining 18 persons are spotted close to those two census tracts, for the most part, although one person is reported as living in West Philadelphia. A question should be raised concerning the apparent discrepancy between the 518 persons reported on the map and the 932 persons reported in the Diocesan Journal for 1962, the last for which figures were available, and the figures in the Church Self-Study Form which list a total of 600 confirmed persons.

## MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION TABLE

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PARISH PHILADELPHIA

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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REPORTED MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL DATA FROM JOURNALS

The incomplete nature of the report submitted to the diocese for 1963, and a question as to the accuracy of the figures reporting the communicant strength from 1960 through 1962, suggest that interpretation of the membership and financial statistics would have little validity. It may be noted that from 1961 through 1963, the Church of St. John the Evangelist set aside 12.1% of its total reported expenditures for work outside of the parish. That figure should be compared with the ratio of 8.1% reported for the churches of South Philadelphia as a whole, the ratio of 12.2% for the City of Philadelphia churches, and the ratio of 14.9% for the churches of the diocese.

## VITAL STATISTICS

PARISH ST. JOHN/EVANGELIST TOWN PHILADELPHIA  
 COUNTY PHILADELPHIA DIOCESE PENNSYLVANIA

	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1961	1962	1963
Baptized Members	879	890	892	1013	965	953	932	-
Communicants	804	651	617	573	473	471	472	-
Church School	233	160	165	185	161	108	150	109
Baptisms	26	36	26	26	22	14	15	-
Percentage of Communicants	3.1	5.5	4.2	4.5	4.7	3.0	3.2	
Confirmations	58	15	21	45	17	12	18	-
Percentage of Communicants	7.2	2.3	3.4	7.9	3.6	2.5	3.8	
Parochial Expenditures 1	2,628	3,652	4,453	9,415	11,081	11,024	338	9687
Special Par. Expenditures 2	857	1,427	2,994	1,441	356	753	490	645
Extra-parochial Expenditures 3	558	665	726	1,168	3,556	1,159	1032	967
Total Reported Expenditures	4,043	5,744	8,173	12,024	14,993	12,936	1,860	11,299
Expenditures per Communicant	5.03	8.82	13.25	20.98	31.70	27.46	3.94	
Extra-parochial Expenditures per Communicant	0.69	1.02	1.18	2.04	7.52	2.46	2.19	

1 Includes clergy salary, current expense, pension premium, and Diocesan assessment.

2 Special parish purposes, including capital expenditures.

3 Includes Church's Program, special outside.

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DATA ON THE CONGREGATION

No Episcopal Census was received from the congregation of the Church of St. John the Evangelist. If the members wish to complete a census at a later date, the General Division of Research and Field Study will process it as time permits.

## DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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## ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The material received for the Diocesan Survey from the Church of St. John the Evangelist was apparently hurriedly and incompletely prepared. No Episcopal Census was received, the Church Self-Study Form was approximately one-third completed, and the membership map appears to contain generalizations in its compilations. Because of the less than adequate nature of the submitted material, no summary or suggestions can be made concerning the Church of St. John the Evangelist. That situation is regrettable, especially in view of the importance which the congregation and the property can play in the general planning for effective work by the Church in the neighborhood.